THE ELEVENTH DAY.

12th March 1921.

The Assembly met at 11 A. M. on Saturday, the 12th March 1921.

152. Concessions to Malayala Brahmins.

Mr. Chingan Narayanan Bhattatiri (Member, Jenmi, Quilon Division) said that the material condition of his community was very unsatisfactory and that they were practically ignored by the Government. Malayala Brahmins were returned as members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly only as representatives of the Jenmies. They were also not represented in such institutions as the Panchayat Courts, Municipal Councils, &c. The Member therefore prayed that at least one member should be nominated from the community as a member of the S. M. P. Assembly, and that arrangements should be made for the members of his community being appointed as Judges of the Panchayat Courts and as members of Municipal Councils at least in places where the community was large in numbers.

The Member learnt with regret that the Education Expenditure Committee had recommended the abolition of the three existing Special schools for Malayala Brahmins on the ground that the number of pupils was small and that a good number of pupils from the community were studying in other schools. The Committee seemed to have overlooked the fact that pupils at all stages could not attend public schools and that at one stage, that is, the period ranging from Upanayanam to Samavartanam, a Malayala Brahmin boy could not attend any school except the Special school. The argument of the Committee that the community was rich enough was also untenable, as most of the Jenmies, though owners of extensive lands, did not get appreciable income therefrom on account of the difficulty in collecting their dues. It was true that Government were giving some grant for the boarding expenses of the pupils of the Special schools at Mannadi and Kumaranallur. But the Education Expenditure Committee had ignored the fact that the expenditure was met from the income of certain endowments belonging to the community which had merged in Government property. There were other endowments also in the possession of Government, and the Member prayed that the income therefrom might also be arranged to be utilised for the boarding expenses of the Special schools. The statement of the Education Expenditure Committee that there was no fee income from the Special schools was not correct. Fee was being collected in the Kumaranallur Special school as in other schools.

The Member also prayed,

(1) that a Special school for Malayala Brahmins be established at Kaladi, the sacred birth-place of the Jagad Guru, Sri Sankaracharya, to serve the pupils of the community in North Travancore, and

(2) that preferential treatment be given to Malayala Brahmins in the matter of Government appointments, especially appointments in the Devaswom department.

Dewan's reply.—No definite reply can be given just now as the Member did not send in advance the points he was going to discuss. All his suggestions will be considered.

153. The present condition of the town of Eraniel and certain suggestions for its improvement.

Mr. P. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel Taluk) said that the town of Eraniel was very densely inhabited having a population of 5,340 and that the major-

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